

The GARZETTE

February, 2000

Volume 11, Issue 2



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The President's Pen

By David Adcock, KA4KKF



This may be my last editorial for the President's Pen. I want to say that I've had a great time learning the ropes of running this club. I believe the second and third year will be more exciting than the first. I want to thank the executive committee for their support and hope they will run again. The officers run independent of each other. I am running for President again and hope you will vote me back into office. It doesn't matter if you're old or new, if you would like to help lead this club, then volunteer to be an officer or committee chairman when asked. You will find a lot of people to give you help when you ask for it. I remember some years ago that a

new ham with the call KD4KCR was asked to run for president. He had been a ham for only a few months. He took the job and ran with it. Don't let a new call sign keep you from helping if you want to help. I think **GARS** has a lot to offer every operator in Gwinnett County and as a club, it should be providing the opportunity to do these.

The following paragraphs are from clubs on the Internet. The names were changed to radio and operations.

"The clubs that we join should provide us with an array of information, lots of outdoor activities, and classes for the newbies in the field, and help to line up partners for new operators. Instead we get clubs that are disorganized, confused, and controlled by two or three people who often ignore any new ideas.

If we take a hard look at the problems, we find that they have quite a few. First, the need to raise money, some clubs just charge a large yearly fee or have functions that

(Continued on page 5)

Tech Fest 2000 Rescheduled

By Ike Chapman, KE4GYM

The bad news was that with the Atlanta area under the threat of a winter storm, Tech Fest 2000 was postponed until a later date. The good news is that it's been rescheduled for Saturday, March 11.

Tech Fest Chairman Barry Zoll, N1TOQ advises that the plans remain in place for the displays and the chili cook off. Barry also would like to take this opportunity to invite anyone would had not previously signed for

a booth or a display to contact him to sign up. Barry's email address is n1toq@bellsouth.net and his phone number is page 3 of this newsletter.

Hope to see you all at Tech Fest 2000!



The GARZETTE

The GARZETTE is the official monthly organ of the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society serving its members and other persons interested in the advancement of the amateur radio art.

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If possible, submit items in ASCII text format or Microsoft Word format by email to ichapman@mindspring.com. Artwork can be accepted in most any graphics format and can be submitted via email to the same address. Alternate means of submittal can be arranged when necessary.

In keeping with the amateur radio spirit, permission is hereby granted for the reproduction of The GARZETTE articles by other amateur radio club newsletters provided that proper credit is given to the individual author and to The GARZETTE.

The GARZETTE is created on a Pentium II-300 MHz computer using Microsoft Publisher 98 and Microsoft Office 97.

The GARZETTE is published each month with the assistance of Joe Biddle, AD4PZ and Karl Phillips, K4GZZ who interface with the printer. Larry Thill, W4LJT and Jack Herndon, WU4H do the final production work on The GARZETTE by folding, labeling, stamping and getting the end product to the Post Office each month. Many thanks to each of them and all article contributors.

Deadline for submissions is the 24th of each month for inclusion in the following month's issue.

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All correspondence relating to articles posted in The GARZETTE or for information concerning advertising rates should be directed to the following address:

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Lilburn, GA 30048
Attn: Newsletter Editor



Meeting Minutes

By Jack Herndon, WU4H

The January, 2000 meeting of the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society (**GARS**) was called to order at 19:35 local by President David Adcock, KA4KKF.

Approximately 62 members and visitors were present.

A motion made and seconded to accept the minutes of the November meeting as published in the Garzette.

KA4KKF presented the Treasurer report, we currently have approximately \$5,200 in the bank.

Nominations for officers were open; the following were placed into nomination:

- Activities Manager - Ike Chapman, KE4GYM
- Treasurer - Randy Drescher, K4HS ; Jeff Cutchins, KF4NBD
- Secretary - none
- VP - Marty Fowler, KE4MLH; Barry Zoll, N1TOQ
- President - David Adcock, KA4KKF

Nominations will be re-open during the February meeting prior to elections.

KE4GYM and KE4MLH informed the membership that there will be a dog show February 4, 5 and 6. The show is sponsored by the Cherokee Rose Cluster. A minimum of 25 people per day are needed to support the show. Current only about 6 per day are signed up. A signup sheet was passed around soliciting volunteers. Amateur radios will not be used.

AF4FO Susan Swiderski, is looking for someone to take over apparel.

Rick Morris, KD4VOJ informed the membership that the Venture Scouts, sponsored by **GARS**, is looking for 5 new members who are not currently scouts. The requirements are either male or

female and between the ages of 14 to 21. The prospective members should have an interest in amateur radio and/or community service. Interested people should contact Rick.

Joe Biddle, AD4PZ presented the following for membership, N2FOF James Drumm, KB4UNA Jackson Melton, WC4X Ned Mountain, W4UVQ Jack Shipley, KG4FHB Marvin Atherton. The above were voted into membership.

Eddie Foust, WD4JEM informed the club that there would be an opportunity to support several kayaking events in April, May, June and September.

KE4GYM informed those present that the last newsletter he will publish will be in February. A replacement for Newsletter Editor is desperately needed if the Garzette is to continue. W4NVF made an appeal to the membership for someone to take over this most important position.

Barry Zoll N1TOQ presented a program on generators.

Barry Zoll, N1TOQ present the list of events scheduled for Tech Fest. These are: PSK231, DF'ing Radio programming, HF Station, ARES, 12 volt table, QRP, ARRL, Batteries, HF antenna building, Old radios, Georgia Baptist emergency communications 6 meters, and a radio test booth. Barry also made an appeal for more food and chili.

KD4VOJ won the 1 year subscription to World Radio and KG4FXG won the \$25 gift certificate

The meeting was closed at 21:09 local.

Submitted by Jack Herndon, WU4H, Secretary



My Start In Ham Radio

By Paul Brisendine, K4HCM

In a time long, long ago I would listen to hams in the warm glow of the #47 dial lamps, and the green cats eye on a tube type console radio my Dad bought from the local Firestone store. It was not bought for me to listen to hams, but for my Dad to listen to the news from Europe in 1939. You know the years before W.W.II. That peaked my interest in ham radio. In later years I would tinker with old AC/DC radios, to see how many distance broadcast stations I could hear, that's when I really got introduced to electricity, AC/DC no transformer you know what I mean, At that time there were not as many standard broadcast stations as there are today, and many of them were clear channel stations that could be heard all over the country at night. In those days there was no TV, so I thought it was great to hear stations from all over the world. By the way this was the era of AM Ham radio, no SSB.

Later on when I was about 14 or 15 I built my first crystal set, and managed to get it to work so I could hear short wave broadcast stations. That's when the radio bug really got me. Unfortunately I grew up in an area with few hams, and did not get into ham radio until a number of years later when I met some hams through work, and began to learn the code. I got my first ticket as a novice in 1957. My first station consisted of a Heath Kit DX-20 CW only transmitter that I built, and a Hammerland HQ 100 as my receiver. My antenna was a three band dipole. This was a cheap and effective antenna. which worked very well.

I did upgrade to Technician Plus about 1959, and worked mostly 6 meter AM until about 1970. After that I did not operate again until 1972. That was on 2-meters 6 crystal Regency rig. Not

much happened with me, relative to ham radio until 1986 here in Gwinnett County. I finally got a decent 2-meter HT, and found **GARS**. That started ham radio for me all over again.

In March of 1996 I up graded to General, yes it was a long time from Tech + to General. I got into the **GARS** Advanced class in January 1997, and passed the exam in April. During the classes I became friends with the guys in the class, and several of us decided we might as well try for Extra before the restructuring to the license grades by the FCC. I made this upgrade on June 6th. 1999, and the rest is history. Thanks **GARS**.

As someone said recently "I have a passion for Ham radio".



Random Ramblings

DISCLAIMER: You are in the presence of that perverse form of wit and sarcasm. Please adjust your blood pressure medication accordingly.

— Anonymous

PERCUSSIVE MAINTENANCE: The fine art of whacking the crap out of an electronic device to get it to work again.

— Anonymous

Nobody ever went broke underestimating the taste of the American public.

-- H. L. Mencken

"For NASA, space is still a high priority."

-- Dan Quayle



GARS

Officers

President

David Adcock, KA4KKF (770) 271-9398

Vice President

Rick Morris, KD4VOJ (770)945-5818

Secretary

Jack Herndon, WU4H (770)995-0438

Treasurer

Jeff Cutchins, KF4NBD (770) 614-8750

Activities Manager

Howie Gould, W4NVF (770)921-8362

Board Of Directors

Johnny Fearon, W4WKP (770)466-4038

Randy Drescher, K4HS (770)925-9549

Ike Chapman, KE4GYM (770)339-8123

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Membership Chairman

Joe Biddle, AD4PZ (770)963-4316

Publicity Chairman

Paul Brisendine, K4HCM (770)962-5247

Newsletter Editor

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License Trustee

Randy Drescher, K4HS (770)925-9549

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Howie Gould, W4NVF (770)921-8362

Tech Fest

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TVI

David Schulte, KT4NK (770)923-0389

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Open

Net Manager

Susan Swiderski, AF4FO (770)449-0369

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Gene Gach, KF4NOG (770) 925-0186

Field Day

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Win Jackson, N1TWX (404)869-1347

Legal Counsel

Bill Brandon, WW4BB (770)554-9998

Apparel Manager

Susan Swiderski, AF4FO (770)449-0369

Christmas Party Chairman

Tammy Sokol, (770)925-1619

Digital Radio Chairman

Open

QSL Manager

Ade Wirth, W4ADE (770)614-3743

Webmaster

Ike Chapman, KE4GYM (770)339-8123



On The Air With W5RQR

By Karl Phillips, K4GZZ

This month's ON THE AIR features Bill Stewman - W5RQR. Bill was born in Quannah, Texas, which is located in the panhandle of North Texas. Bill moved to Houston at a very young age and attended grammar school and high school there. He graduated from Galena Park High School. Bill then attended The University of Houston and got his 4-year degree in 5 years, majoring in Electronic Technology.

After graduating, Bill relocated to Dallas and worked for Collins Radio, which was later bought by Rockwell. Bill's forte was in the broadcast equipment department. Bill worked for Collins for 14 years and held numerous positions there. Bill told me it was amazing that even after working at Collins for so long, he never owned a piece of Collins gear. After working for Collins, Bill got his masters degree and soon relocated to Seattle, Washington and went to work for Boeing as an office automation consultant.

After Boeing, Bill moved to Logan, Utah and went to work for a company called Thiokol. Thiokol was the company that built the solid rocket boosters for NASA. Bill was the Manager of the Technical Research Department there for 3 years.

The year after the Challenger disaster, Bill moved to Georgia as the Project Manager for FATS (Firearms Training System). They build high end, life size video training scenarios for use in training the Federal Bureau of Investigation agents and police. I am sure you've seen the beverage commercial where the guy driving the simulator truck has the decision as to whether to follow a car load of beautiful girls or drive straight. If you've seen it, you'll know he decides that, as part of the training, this is a trick, so he drives straight

and goes through barricades and over a cliff. Well, FATS simulators simulate gun fights and you have to make split decisions as to whether to fire at a suddenly appearing man or not. If you shoot the bad guy you get points and if you shoot the good guy you lose points.

Bill is currently the Project Manager at Inacom, a company that does high tech computer work. They spent about \$22 million dollars on the Y2K bug and Bill says that he is glad that now "Y2K turned out to be Y2OK".

As for amateur radio, Bill got interested in the hobby while in the 6th grade. As a 6th grader, Bill passed his Novice test and became K5IUX. A year later, in 1952, Bill passed his General. Bill had to put the hobby aside for a while and his license expired so around 1966, Bill studied with a friend and re-took and passed the test. In 1970, Bill passed his Advanced and became W5RQR. Bill says that, while in college, he held a schedule with VK2ADE every day, through the summer for a solid month.

As a Novice, Bill built several Heathkit transmitters and had a Hallicrafters HQ-170 receiver. He also built a 1 KW linear with a pair of 813 finals with a 2000-volt power supply. His linear had no cover and that is a "recipe" for disaster. Sure enough, Bill accidentally came in contact with one of the caps on an 813. He ended up on his butt on the floor, stunned and wondering what went wrong. To that, Bill gives this advice, "never build gear without covers"! I remember as an 11 year old Novice coming in contact with the relay on the back of my Ranger. My parents washed out my mouth with soap about four times! Bill had a 15-meter beam at the top of a 65 foot tree, turned by a rotor and worked many, many countries as a young ham. Bill says

that back then, he went through a lot of ham gear.

Even with that beam in a 65 foot tree, Bill had a friend about 10 miles away that got the same signal reports with a 60 watt Gonset rig and a long piece of wire run out his window and hanging over a chain link fence! A little frustrating, but proof that if conditions are good, you can work the world with very marginal equipment and antennas.

Bill moved to Atlanta in 1992 and joined **GARS** in 1998. He is also a member of LARC. Now that Y2K is Y2OK, I think Bill has plans of becoming more active with the club. He really likes to attend ham-fests.

His current equipment consists of a Yaesu FT-901 DM and a Wireman balun dipole. He also has a Kenwood TM-261 and a MFJ 949D antenna coupler.

His 4 kids are grown and have moved on, but Bill says he was unsuccessful at getting anymembers of his family interested in ham radio. He was able to obtain one of his kid's bedrooms as a "shack". Bill recently built a 2-meter J-pole out of copper tubing and an iambic keyer switch out of Plexiglas and machine screws. Bill is currently making plans to start his own Internet business where he plans to sell re-manufactured laser toner cartridges.

It was great to interview Bill for this month's ON THE AIR feature. I'll be doing extensive research between now and next month to decide who will be next...See you at Tech-Fest.

73 - Karl K4GZZ



The President's Pen

By David Adcock, KA4KKF

(Continued from page 1)

may not return much of it into cash for the club. The biggest problem it seems to me is the lack of participation in club duties. What usually happens is the same old crowd gets in and repeats every year and never wants to change anything? The main thing that most people come to a club for is to learn something more about the hobby and to be involved in the frequent operations. The club officers should be leaders that can give the membership options to do. Demonstrations or outings that use radios or social functions are some of the things a club can do."

Does the above sound familiar? The above was cut from another club's web page and radio and operations were substituted for their name. It just happen to come from a club of metal detector enthusiast I've been doing a lot of surfing on the web for clubs and the central theme from 90% of them is trying to get members to participate. We are very lucky in **GARS**. We work 10 days a year and collect approximately \$7500.00 dollars for the treasury. This money is used for repeater repair and for gifts and field day and the Christmas party and Techfest. Ten days and we don't have to worry about months of planning. We donate money to ARES and ARRL. We provide demos for the scouts etc. If **GARS** is to take the lead in Gwinnett County and make sure our operators are trained, then we will need to have this money coming in. Just think, 10 days out of 365. Can you help the club? The officers are thinking that the 10 days may be too much because 7 of them happen within 35 days. If we cut back to 6 days or 2 times a year, the income will go down but the budget will be adjusted so we don't try to do as many outings or demonstra-

tions or picnics or have as much food at field day. If we budget right, we could do without the dog shows. Let's see how many radios did we gave away last year? We gave away 5 radios and associated parts and stuff. Let's face it guys, if we don't do the dog shows, we will have to curtail a lot of activities that we have become accustomed to. We also will not be able to afford the parts necessary to upgrade our repeater systems. We still need a lot of gear to make our systems the best. You say, we pay dues, well the dues go along way in helping these functions too, but they take care of the month to month bills we have to pay. If we are ever to obtain a clubhouse, we will need this income too. Even if **GARS** doesn't get into the school system, we can provide education throughout the county. This to will take money and members to provide this to the county. The GWINNETT AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY should take the lead in the county to provide leadership. I think that 10 days out of 365 is not asking too much from the club membership to do a little work to help make **GARS** the BEST. IT TAKES TEAMWORK AND PEOPLE TO MAKE THIS CLUB WORK. I hope you can help in the year 2000. Just remember four little words. They can change your life and help the club. I CAN DO THAT. That's it. That is all it takes. I CAN DO THAT. Those little words will help the club in a lot of ways.

One last thing to talk about. There is a special committee that is calling people throughout the club, to ask for input and their opinions. Please answer their questions and provide feedback. The Committee will be reporting to the executive committee on their findings. Their report will show only the results from the club members. If I'm not

part of the executive committee, I know the next group of officers will take this info and provide leadership for the club. See you at the next meeting.

73,
David,
KA4KKF

❖❖❖

Random Ramblings

"Who are you and how did you get in here?" "I'm a locksmith. And, I'm a locksmith."

-- Leslie Nielsen as Lieutenant Frank Drebin, "Police Squad"

"J.F.K.—The Man and the Airport"
-- Suggested book title

Communism doesn't work because people like to own stuff.

-- Frank Zappa

I see your point... and raise you a line."

-- Elliot Smorodinsky

"Just once, I wish we would encounter an alien menace that wasn't immune to bullets"

-- Brigadier Lethbridge-Stewart, in "Dr. Who"

"Welcome to President Bush, Mrs. Bush, and my fellow astronauts."

-- Dan Quayle

I just got skylights put in my place. The people who live above me are furious.

— Steven Wright

❖❖❖

Upcoming Paddle Events

By Eddie Faust, WD4JEM

Hi folks, the year 2000 is on its way to fast becoming history so the new millinium can finally get here. In the mean time we need to start planning communications support for the year 2000 paddle events at the Clarks Bridge Olympic complex on Lake Lanier. This is a multi-club supported event. Last year we had radio operators from Big Shanty, GARS, LARC and a few independents show up and volunteer. We provided course safety communications and a bit of Amateur Television.

I have included below a list of the event dates for this year. Thankfully this year none of them fall on field day. This is a good public service event and we can get some good exposure for Amateur Radio. Please look over the schedule and pass it along to your club or other area operators that may be interested.

Please email me your questions or comments.

73, de Eddie, WD4JEM
wd4jem@bellsouth.net
 770-339-4886

Lanier Canoe and Kayak Club
 Events needing
 Amateur Radio Support

April 29 - 30, 2000

Marathon Team Trials: This will be a two day event with most activity taking place in the mornings. We will need radio operators and volunteers with their own water craft willing to assist along the three plus mile long course. We will need at least 12 operators. The more the better.

May 20, 2000

Dragon Boat Festival: I'm not sure if we will need to support this event or not, either way it will be great to watch, these are big boats paddled by teams. Lots of SHOW.

May 27, 2000

Georgia Games, District Sports Festival: We may need a few operators for this event. Most likely will be a very light day. Will need about 6 to 10 operators for this event.

July 22 - 23, 2000

Georgia Games: This is a joint Rowing/Kayaking event. The kayaking support will be needed on Saturday only. Will need about 6 to 10 operators for this event.

August 8 - 12, 2000

USACK Sprint National Championship: The Olympic Course will be installed for this event. Last year over 320 athletes participated in the event in Lake Placid, NY. We will need to provide safety communications for the venue each day. This will be tough since we are dealing with work days. Retired or job flexible hams can really show their support. This event will require about 10 operators per day to cover the venue.

September 22 - 24, 2000

PADDLEFEST: Third annual, this is where we introduced Amateur Radio to the paddling community. This will be a three day event of fun, educational activities and racing venue support. We will need six or so radio operators to help for a few hours each day.

April 13 - 15, 2001

WORLD CUP #1: We will see racers from various nationalities here to show their stuff. Lets get out and provide Amateur Radio support as well. Since this will be in the middle of our spring storm season it could get interesting. We will need 12 or more operators each day.

2002 TBA

INTERNATIONAL TEST EVENT: This will be a large scale test event to prepare for the 2003 World Championships. We will need "all hands on deck for this event." Lots to do and learn as we prepare to provide safety communications for the World Championships next year.

August 6 - 10, 2003

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS: This should be the biggest event since the 1996 Olympics for Lake Lanier. There will be international coverage. We will need lots of support for this event. Would make a good QST article for amateur radio.

Note: In 2001, 2002, 2003 there will be other smaller events as well but the schedule has not been determined.



Random Ramblings

He who hesitates is not only lost, but miles from the next exit.
 -- unknown

Even if you're on the right track, you'll get run over if you just sit there.

- Will Rogers

Accomplishing the impossible means only that the boss will add it to your regular duties.

-- Doug Larson

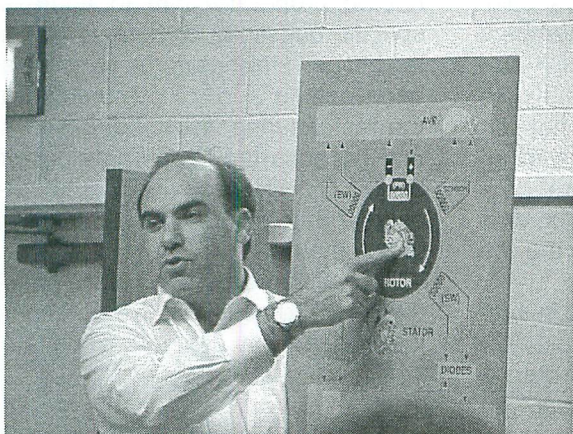
A friend is someone who will help you move. A real friend is someone who will help you move a body.

-- Unknown

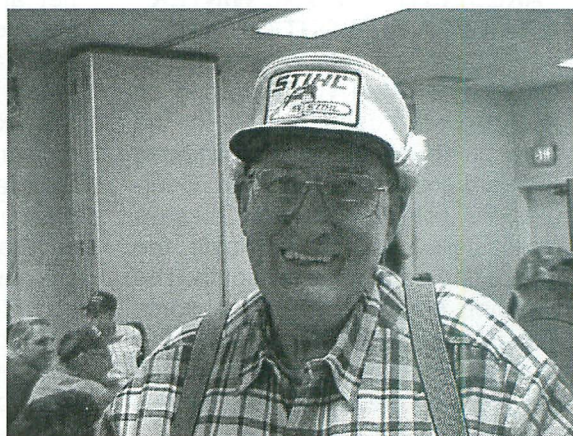


Scenes From *GARS*

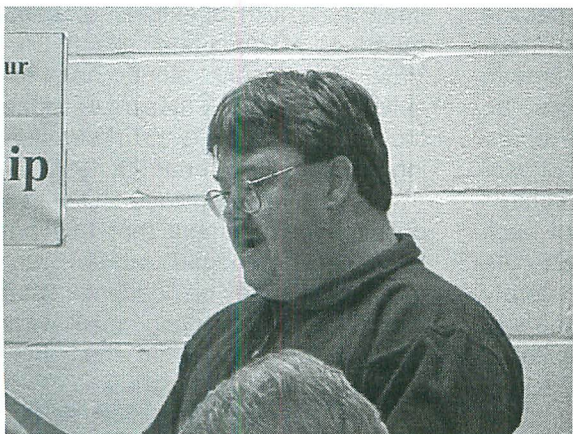
Digital images by Ike Chapman, KE4GYM



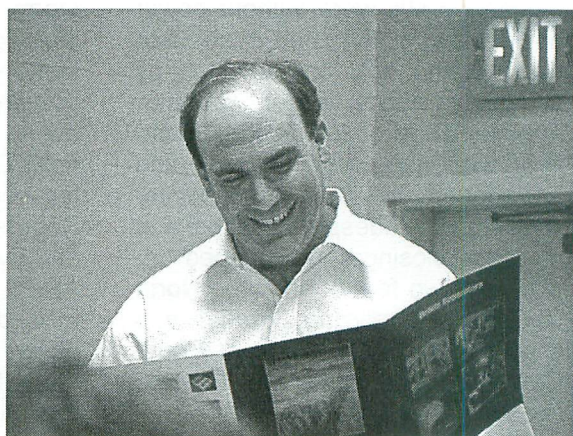
Barry, N1TOQ explains the operating cycles of generators at the January club meeting.



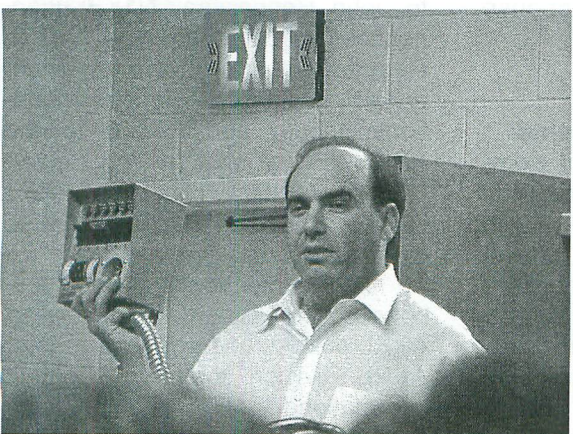
Howie, W4NVF models the latest fashions in hats at the January meeting.



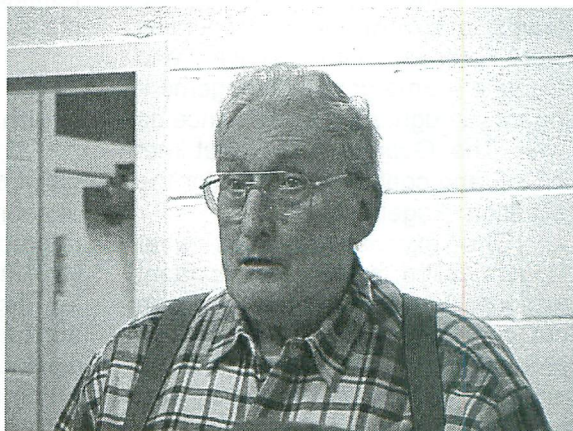
Membership Chairman Joe, AD4PZ reads the list of new *GARS* applicants.



Barry, N1TOQ explains that he *knows* the best brand of generators.



Barry, N1TOQ talks about transfer switches and generator safety.



Howie, W4NVF makes sure that everyone has a ticket for the drawing.

News From The League

ARES ACTIVATES AS WINTER TAKES A BITE OUT OF DIXIE

Normally a relative stranger to Georgia, Ol' Man Winter turned up unexpectedly January 23 in the form of an ice storm that affected the northern third of the state. Georgia SEC Tom Rogers, KR4OL, says forecasters did not anticipate the freeze line coming as far south. The weather emergency caught some ARES members off-guard as well and showed him that amateurs in the region need to be better-prepared for the unexpected.

The Georgia ice storm left some 340,000 homes and businesses without power, and tens of thousands still were without power at week's end. But The Peach State was not the only one affected by unusually harsh winter weather. Thousands of others in the Southeast were left without power and snowbound to boot. The winter storm cause widespread school and business closings and dumped upwards of two feet of snow on North Carolina, paralyzing traffic and stranding travelers. Parts of South Carolina, the Virginias, and Tennessee saw snow as well.

Rogers says that as power lines, telephone lines, and trees came crashing down in Georgia, out went the call for help. ARES teams in several Georgia counties were pressed into service, and Georgia's Emergency Management Agency sought ARES assistance as well. The Georgia ARES Net met on HF and continued to monitor the situation, Rogers said.

The exercise revealed what Rogers called "some very important lessons." For starters, the ice storm not only presented a very serious problem for public utilities but for amateur stations as well. Many stations lost their HF antennas due to icing, handicapping ARES' ability to coordinate between the ARES HF

net and local areas, Rogers said. He recommended ARES members keep a spare, emergency HF antenna on hand for situations like this. Rogers says HF was not the only mode hampered by the icing. Several repeaters also were crippled by the ice, he said, and VHF coverage in many areas of the ice storm was lost.

Rogers pointed out that in winter conditions, things taken for granted can and do fail. "Create a plan for backup and exercise it," he suggested. "Winter icing creates conditions for amateur radio we can overcome if we plan ahead."

The surprise nature of the ice storm gave rise to another "lesson learned," Rogers said. "Don't assume you are going to have time to prepare your station before an event happens," he said. "Prepare now! Do not take the threat of winter weather to your station lightly." Rogers said the assistance of each and every station is valuable to the ARES program and is sorely missed when stations are unable to be on hand. With the possibility of more freezing weather in Georgia this weekend—just in time for the Super Bowl in Atlanta—Rogers recommended that ARES members take time to review their station capabilities and ARES response plans.—Tom Rogers, KR4OL

Don't target Riley with restructuring comments:

If you've got a comment, complaint or question about the recently announced FCC Amateur Radio restructuring, FCC Special Counsel for Amateur Radio Enforcement Riley Hollingsworth asks that you don't include him as a target or recipient. His FCC department, the Enforcement Bureau, was not involved with developing the restructuring Report and Order released December 30, and he said it would

not be proper for him to address specific questions or comments on the issue. Hollingsworth says he's been getting a lot of comments on the restructuring issue, but he says that because the R&O came out of the FCC's Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, it's impolitic for him to comment.

Hollingsworth says his amateur enforcement initiative will continue essentially as it has since late 1998.

HQ restructuring e-mail:

ARRL Headquarters personnel have received thousands of e-mails (in addition to telephone calls and snail mail) with questions or comments on restructuring. The ARRL-VEC department alone has received nearly 1600 messages since the FCC announced the restructuring program December 30, 1999.

If you have e-mailed HQ with a question or comment that has not been acknowledged and/or answered, please be patient. Staff members are working their way through the backlog in the order messages were received.

To ensure e-mail goes to the most appropriate department at Headquarters, questions about the new FCC rules should be directed to John Hennessee, N1KB, jhennessee@arrl.org, in the ARRL Regulatory Information Branch; questions about amateur examinations should be directed to the ARRL-VEC at vec@arrl.org; questions about the availability of ARRL license study materials should be directed to pubsales@arrl.org.

Members should direct questions or comments concerning ARRL policies and positions to their ARRL division directors. Contact information for ARRL directors is on page 10 of any issue of QST.

(Continued on page 9)

News From The League

(Continued from page 8)

RUSSIAN SETBACKS ALTER PLANS FOR AMATEUR RADIO'S ISS DEBUT

Despite launch delays, Amateur Radio will be available to the first crew members to live on the International Space Station, thanks to some quick shuffling of plans by those involved with the Amateur Radio on the International Space Station project. Initial ham gear now will be installed temporarily aboard the Functional Cargo Block module, already in space, instead of aboard the Service Module. The station would use existing non-ham antennas that can function on 2 meters.

Flaws recently revealed in the Russian Proton booster rocket further put off the launch of the Zvezda (or "Star") Service Module that was to house initial ISS crews and initial amateur gear.

An all-ham initial ISS crew and the amateur gear could go into space as early as this summer, instead of this spring as planned. Original ARISS plans had called for installation of basic VHF-UHF amateur gear and antennas aboard the Service Module.

Russian space agency chief Yuri Koptev said this week that Russia plans to put the Service Module into space at the end of July. But Koptev also indicated that his country will need additional financial help to cover the costs of its space endeavors. Those projects include rejuvenating the aging Mir space station.

"Our ham equipment eventually will be installed in the Service Module," explained ARRL Field and Educational Services Manager Rosalie White, WA1STO—a member of the SAREX Working Group. White says the shift in ARISS plans meant the US and Russian ISS partners have had to tackle some new issues, including connectors,

feed lines, and attachment within the Functional Cargo Block. Russian qualification testing for gear that will fly in the Russian module was said to be nearly complete this week.

White will report in detail on the ARISS project's status to the ARRL Board of Directors, meeting this weekend in Memphis.

The first ISS crew includes US astronaut Bill Shepherd, KD5GSL, and Russian Cosmonauts Sergei Krikalev, U5MIR, and the recently licensed Yuri Gaidzenko, whose call sign was not available. Shepherd's designated backup is astronaut Ken Bowersox, who just passed his Amateur Radio exam this month.

The SWG has tapped John Nickel, WD5EEV, to be Project Manager of ARISS. He'll work with SAREX Principal Investigator Matt Bordelon, KC5BTL. Nickel was SAREX Principal Investigator before he retired from NASA.

In her report to the ARRL Board, White said the multinational ARISS project has generated a new dimension of challenges and difficulties. "If someone had asked how much work it would take to have Amateur Radio onboard the International Space Station, the SAREX Working Group would have never even come close to guessing the correct number of hours," she said. In the spirit of "one of the fine ham traditions we hold dear," White concluded, the ARISS team would continue to find the time and know-how to work through the challenges and problems ahead.

SPREAD SPECTRUM INVENTOR, ACTRESS HEDY LAMARR, DIES

Hedy Lamarr, the sultry, sexy screen star of the 1930s and 1940s who also conceived the frequency-hopping technique now known as spread spectrum, has died. She

was believed to be 86.

Born Hedwig Kiesler in Austria, Lamarr came to the US in 1937 after being signed by MGM. Among her most successful films was the 1949 *Samson and Delilah*, directed by Cecil B. DeMille.

In her 1992 book *Feminine Ingenuity*, Lamarr describes how she came up with the idea of a radio signaling device for radio-controlled torpedoes that would minimize the danger of detection or jamming by randomly shifting the frequency. She and composer George Antheil developed the concept and received a patent for it in 1942.

The concept never saw fruition during World War II, but when the patent expired, Sylvania developed the idea for use in satellites. Spread spectrum also has found applications in wireless telephones, military radios, wireless computer links, and Amateur Radio experimentation.

"I read the patent," Franklin Antonio, chief technical officer of the cellular phone maker Qualcomm Inc, said in 1997. "You don't usually think of movie stars having brains, but she sure did."

Lamarr lived in an Orlando, Florida, suburb in recent years and shunned publicity.

A more-detailed version of Lamarr's role in spread spectrum is described in the IEEE book *Spread Spectrum Communications*, published in 1983.—thanks to

André Kesteloot, N4ICK and Bill Ricker, N1VUX

Reprinted with permission from "The ARRL Letter" published by the American Radio Relay League, Newington, CT.



Metro Atlanta Club Meetings

First Tuesday

Metro Atlanta Telephone Pioneers

Old Hickory House
5490 Chamblee/Dunwoody Rd, Dunwoody
Dutch dinner is at 6:30 PM, followed by meeting.
Talk In 145.410(-)

Kennehoochee ARC

First United Methodist Church in Marietta
Meeting begins at 7:30 PM
Talk In 146.880(-)

First Thursday

Atlanta Radio Club

American Red Cross Building, Lindberg Plaza
Meeting is at 7:30 PM
Talk In -146.820(-)

N.E. Georgia ARC

Jefferson Civic Center
Off of Memorial Dr. toward Winder from Jefferson
Meeting is at 6:30 PM
Talk In - 147.225(+)

Second Wednesday

North Fulton Amateur Radio League

Ryan's Steak House
Alpharetta Highway (Hwy 9), Alpharetta
Dinner at 6:30 PM, meeting at 7:30 PM
Talk In - 145.47(-)

Second Thursday

Alford Memorial Radio Club

Killian Hall, Killian Hill Road
Lilburn
Dinner at 6:00 PM, meeting at 7:30 PM
Talk In - 146.760(-)

Second Saturday

East Atlanta LAN

St. Patrick's Episcopal Church
Dunwoody
Meeting is at 10:00 AM
Talk In - 145.410(-) and 443.025(+)

Third THURSDAY



Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society

Central Baptist Church
Gwinnett Drive
Lawrenceville
Meeting begins at 7:30 PM in the fellowship hall.
Talk In -147.075(+) and 444.525(+)



Metro Atlanta VE Exam Schedule

GARS publishes Metro Atlanta area VE exam schedules as a service and is not responsible for errors or changes. Call and confirm schedules before going. All sessions are walk-in. Take copies of current license and certificate of completed elements with you to all sessions.

First Sunday

WCARS VEC
2:00 PM
(Except July and September)
Johnson High School
3305 Poplar Springs RD, Gainesville
Terry Jones, W4TL (770)967-6364

First Saturday

9:00AM
Clayton County Emergency
Management Building
7496 N. McDonough St., Jonesboro
George White, KN4NG (770)361-6850

Second Tuesday

7:00PM
Walton EMC
3645 Lenora Church Rd, Snellville
Wayne Taylor, WD4CCA
(770)498-7759

Second Saturday

CA VEC
8:30 AM
Stone Mountain Methodist Church
5312 West Mountain St.
Stone Mountain
Hal Martin, K14RD
(770)978-9160

Third Saturday

CA VEC
9:00AM
Marietta First United Methodist Church
Room 305, 56 Whitlock Ave
Marietta
Larry Huff, WA4CQZ
(770)955-3171

Fourth Tuesday

ARRL VEC
7:00 PM
United Way Service Center
6279 Fairburn Road, Douglasville
Jessie Clower, KB4WFK
(770)942-6466.

Fourth Friday

W5YI VEC
7:00 PM
St. John Neumann Church
801 Tom Smith Road
Lilburn
Headphones Provided!
Howie Gould, W4NVF
(770)921-8362



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GARS Communication System

6 Meter Repeater
53.110 (-1 MHz) MHz
82.5 PL

Main Repeater Site
Oak Street, Lawrenceville

2 Meter Repeater
147.075(+) MHz
82.5 PL

Main Repeater Site
Oak Street, Lawrenceville

Backup Repeater Site
Lanier Mountain, Snellville

Remote Receive Sites
Bogan Road, Buford
Goshen Springs Road, Norcross
Lanier Mountain, Snellville

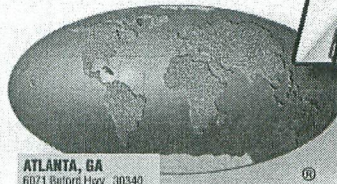
70 Cm Repeater
444.525(+) MHz
82.5 PL

Main Repeater Site
Lanier Mountain, Snellville
Remote Receive Sites
Under construction
Bogan Road, Buford
Goshen Springs Road, Norcross

APRS
144.390 -- 1200 Baud
W4GR/Relay



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• AM Aircraft RX • Dual Watch
• 9600 Baud Compatible • Alpha Numeric Display
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From The Editor's Desk

By Ike Chapman, KE4GYM

And then there were none. This marks my final issue as Newsletter Editor for **GARS**, this time around anyway. As my good friend KE4MLH remarked to me on the way home tonight, I'll probably be back at in a few years. It has been a enjoyable experience both times I've done this job but more so this time than the previous.

The reason? Well it's a pretty simple answer, it's been a team effort this time around and I have my predecessor to thank for that. When I did the job before the editor did the layout, made sure it got copied, then folded, stapled, labeled and stamped the finished newsletters and took them to the post office. It wasn't always such a bad chore as quite often a group would meet up and do the folding, etc., and as every time a bunch of

GARS members gets together we had a great time doing it.

Joe, AD4PZ introduced the current scheme and I want to thank that support staff that very few people see and hear but are very integral to getting the finished result to your mailbox every month.

First there's Joe, AD4PZ and Karl, K4GZZ who interface with the print shop to make sure the print file gets to them and the finished copies get to the mail crew. Previously this was done by Paul, K4HCM who would fold, label, and stamp the finished copies and deliver them to the post office. Since we have a non-profit mailing permit this has to be done to a specific post office, not just the most convenient one.

When Paul decided to step down, his place was taken by Jack, WU4H and Larry, W4LJT. They

work it so that if one of them is out of town on business the other one covers the duty. Without any of these guys this job would have been much more hectic and I extend my heartfelt thanks and hope you do so as well.

I also want to thank all of the article contributors over the past year. I know that if I try and list them all I'll inevitably leave someone out so I'll just say many thanks to that group. I've said it over and over, it's easy to put together a good effort with the folks we have that contribute to it on a regular basis.

The good news is we have several interested parties in taking over the reigns so look forward to the March issue to see what our new editor has for us.

